- 1 JUDGE FRYSIAK: Five minutes?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: That would be fine.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: Okay. Be back at 2:30.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 5 (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: All right. We are back on the
- 7 record. Mr. Schauble, you may continue.
- 8 MR. SCHAUBLE: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 9 BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 10 Q Mr. Kay, I would like to direct your attention to
- Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Exhibit 39. That is the
- December 30, 1994 management agreement.
- 13 A Yes, sir.
- 14 Q And specifically, direct your attention to Page 3
- of the agreement, Paragraph III Maintenance Services to Be
- 16 Provided.
- 17 A Okay.
- 18 Q Is it correct that under this provision, you have
- a sole and exclusive right to determine who works on
- 20 maintaining and repairing the facilities of the management
- 21 agreement stations?
- 22 A It does. However, I never in any way figured that
- 23 precluded Mr. Sobel.
- Q Is it correct that there is nothing in this
- 25 agreement which says Mr. Sobel will get first call or has

- the right to work on the management agreement stations?
- A Well, it doesn't, but it is a basic assumption
- 3 that Mr. Sobel will always be first on.
- 4 JUDGE FRYSIAK: The assumption is what?
- 5 THE WITNESS: That Mr. Sobel would certainly be
- 6 called in regards to his station. You know, I like to know
- 7 who's working on my stations, and I know he likes to know
- 8 who's working on his stations. The assumption here was
- 9 always that he would have first crack at it.
- BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 11 Q Okay. Mr. Kay, please turn to Page 7 of this
- 12 exhibit.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Specifically, Paragraph 20. Do you see that
- 15 language?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Is the representation that is made in there
- 18 correct?
- 19 A The entire agreement that's what you're referring
- 20 to?
- 21 Q Yes.
- 22 A I don't understand part of this here. This is a
- 23 boilerplate that came from --
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: I cannot hear you.
 - THE WITNESS: Sorry. This is boilerplate that

- 1 came from the lawyers. I don't 100 percent understand what
- 2 part of this is. "May not be changed except by written
- instrument signed by the party against who enforcement of
- 4 such change is sought." I don't know what they're meaning
- 5 here against whom enforcement of such change is sought.
- BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 7 Q Let me ask the question this way. Do you have any
- 8 other written agreement with Mr. Sobel concerning the
- 9 management agreement stations, other than this and WTB
- Exhibit 40, which is the addendum and amendment?
- 11 A No other written ones. But it's basically been
- our practices and procedures as far as how Mr. Sobel and I
- have -- how his stations were to be managed, what each of us
- 14 was to do, our understandings. This was boilerplate for the
- 15 lawyers and pretty close.
- 16 JUDGE FRYSIAK: What?
- 17 THE WITNESS: This was boilerplate from the
- 18 lawyers. And it fit pretty close here. And many times
- 19 we'll deviate from the written letter of contracts. I've
- 20 qot repeater contracts, and we change them and modify them
- 21 as we needed with my customers. It's not a going thing.
- BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- Q Mr. Kay, is it correct that you have devoted time
- 24 and effort to attempting to clear the channels in which the
- 25 management agreement stations are located?

- 1 A Not solely the management stations. My own
- 2 stations, as well.
- Well, you have done that work, both for the
- 4 stations you own and the management agreement stations.
- 5 Correct?
- 6 A Of course. It opens up additional capacity for us
- 7 to provide service on.
- 8 Q What sort of work is involved in attempting to get
- 9 a channel clear?
- 10 A Well, you pick which one you want to work on that
- 11 day. You've got a list of the licensees there on there, and
- 12 it's almost like a branch type. Here's a license. Is it
- valid? Does the customer exist? Is he still there? Is he
- 14 using the radios? Is he happy with the service? Can we
- sell him new service? Can we sell him any radios? Is he
- open to a deal? And we pursue down that line. If some
- 17 customers will -- They aren't there. And you can write the
- 18 Commission and get it canceled, or we could file a finder's
- 19 preference.
- Or if we find that the customer is there, but they
- 21 discarded the radios a long time ago. Some of them follow
- the rules and cancel off their license for you. Some won't.
- 23 Some want money for it. Depending on how much they want, we
- 24 may or may not pay them for it. Others will happily sign on
- 25 board with us for a reduced rate or some free radios or want

- trunking radios. We'll make whatever deal we can with the
- 2 customer. Sometimes we can make the deal. Sometimes we
- 3 can't.
- 4 Q How much time have you spent on this sort of work?
- 5 A Well, recently very little, because, to put it
- 6 mildly, very slim pickins'. Years ago, we put a fair amount
- 7 of effort into it.
- 8 Q In 1993, would this be something that you would
- 9 work on, on a daily or weekly basis?
- 10 A At least weekly basis. In '93, we had an
- 11 excellent opportunity to go do that. There were a lot of
- licensees left. There's practically nothing left on 800
- 13 now.
- 14 Q You would also spend money in this effort?
- 15 A Well, you spend money just sending your personnel.
- 16 You spend money hammering on the ISI Database and getting
- 17 printouts. You spend money with ITS getting records. You
- 18 spend money when you call the customer. Of course, we spend
- 19 money doing it. If a customer made a deal, we could provide
- 20 equipment. We could provide service at discount rates. Of
- 21 course, we spent money.
- 22 Q Would it be correct that you cannot separate out
- the time and money you spent doing this work, with respect
- 24 to the stations you to the time and money and work you
 - spent, with respect to the management agreement stations?

- 1 A I think I concentrated more of my efforts towards
- 2 my own stations, or sometimes we'd pick a particular
- 3 frequency and go after it.
- 4 Q Could you give me an estimate as to how much time
- 5 you devoted to attempting to clear channels on the
- 6 management agreement stations?
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: What in 1993?
- 8 MR. SCHAUBLE: In 1993.
- 9 THE WITNESS: It'd be very difficult to guess. A
- 10 lot of the ones in '93 were -- We took over a number of
- 11 customers from a company that no longer wanted to run
- community repeaters. So, we had a very easy job doing it.
- 13 As for amount of time, it would be very hard for me to
- 14 guess. I'd probably say I spent on average, maybe, four or
- 15 five hours a week. Though, it was concentrated far more
- near the end of the year, where I had one major acquisition
- 17 of customers, which took an extensive amount of time.
- 18 BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 19 Q Just so the record is clear, that would be time
- 20 you spent total on this sort of work, regardless of whether
- 21 you were doing it for a station you owned or a station you
- 22 managed? Or would this specifically with respect to the
- 23 management agreement stations?
- A That would be both, together. I couldn't really
 - 25 break it down. Far more of the customers were towards my

- 1 stations, than were towards the managed stations. I think
- there were only two frequencies then, that involved the
- 3 managed stations that we accumulated customers on.
- 4 Q Do you remember approximately how many frequencies
- 5 were involved total? Again, I am asking the question with
- 6 respect to 1993.
- 7 A Probably 60 or 70.
- 8 Q It is correct, Mr. Kay, that you have an exclusive
- 9 option to purchase any of the management agreement stations.
- 10 Correct?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 Q The option price for each station is \$500?
- 13 A That's what's in the contract. Correct.
- 14 Q Did you and Mr. Sobel agree that you would have
- this option before you entered into a written agreement with
- 16 Mr. Sobel?
- 17 A That I'd have the option to purchase them?
- 18 O Yes.
- 19 A Yes.
- Q Did you ask for that option?
- 21 A That would be in the contract.
- 22 Q When the first idea came about of you having an
- 23 option to purchase the stations, were you the one who asked
- 24 Mr. Sobel for the option?
 - 25 A Yes. I believe so. It's quite some time ago. I

- 1 believe I was.
- 2 Q Why did you ask for that provision?
- 3 A Well, I'm writing five year contracts with my
- 4 customers to resell air time on Mr. Sobel's stations. If
- 5 Mr. Sobel sold a station, I've got five year contracts, and
- I may or may not be able to honor. And I don't want to get
- 7 left, how do I say, high and dry, without being able to meet
- 8 my customer's needs on the stations that I had managed. I
- 9 need somehow or other, to protect myself having customers at
- 10 Mr. Sobel's stations.
- 11 Q Is it correct that you arranged for the sale of
- 12 certain management agreement stations?
- 13 A One that I recall.
- 14 Q That was a station that was sold to Henry Matson?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q How much was that station sold for?
- 17 A I don't remember precisely. I think I told you it
- was somewhere between \$70,000 to \$90,000. It may have been
- as high as a \$100,000, but I don't remember precisely.
- 20 Q Of the sale proceeds, how much of the money did
- 21 you receive?
- 22 A Well, it wasn't a percentage.
- 23 Q How much money did you receive from the proceeds
- 24 of that sale?
 - A Well, I received \$20,000 less than what the sale

- 1 price was.
- 2 Q Okay.
- 3 A Because Mr. Sobel I believe got \$20,500.
- 4 O Mr. Kay, please direct your attention to Wireless
- 5 Telecommunications Bureau Exhibit 47. It is the last one in
- 6 the notebook.
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q On Page 6, is that your signature under James A.
- 9 Kay, Jr?
- 10 A Actually, it's above it, but yes.
- 11 Q Above it. Excuse me. This is an agreement under
- which you purchased the assets of AirWave Communications if
- 13 Mr. Sobel dies?
- 14 A Correct.
- 15 Q Turn to Page 2, Paragraph 4.
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Do you see there is a reference in there to a life
- insurance policy that you are to maintain?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Is that life insurance policy in affect?
- 21 A Yes.
- Q What is the current amount of that policy?
- 23 A It's either \$250,000 or \$300,000. I think it's
- _ 24 \$250,000.
 - Q Mr. Kay, please direct your attention to Wireless

- 1 Telecommunications Bureau Exhibit 42.
- 2 A Okay.
- 3 Q On the last page, Page 26.
- 4 A Okay.
- 5 Q Is that your signature on the affidavit?
- 6 A Yes, it is.
- 7 Q Do you recognize this document as a pleading that
- 8 was filed on your behalf with the Commission?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q If you turn to Page 25, the second to last page,
- 11 the affidavit of Marc Sobel.
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q I would ask you compare that page and WTB Exhibit
- 14 41. My question is, are they the same document?
- MR. FRIEDMAN: Is there a Page 41 you want us to
- 16 compare?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Forty-one is the --
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yeah. The pen strokes are all the
- 19 same, where Marc signed it and dated it. I assume the same
- 20 document.
- BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 22 Q Now, at the time this pleading was filed, your
- licenses had been designated for hearing. Correct?
- 24 A That's correct.
 - 25 Q And certain of Mr. Sobel's licenses had been

- designated for hearing, along with your licenses. Correct?
- 2 A Well --
- 3 MR. KELLER: Your Honor, I object, on the same
- 4 clarification grounds. The record will reflect what I said
- 5 yesterday. Let's let it reflect that I have the same
- 6 concerns about the phrasing.
- 7 MR. SCHAUBLE: Let me rephrase the question, Your
- 8 Honor.
- 9 BY MR. SCHAUBLE:
- 10 Q Certain of Mr. Sobel's licenses were included in
- 11 the Designation Order that was issued in this proceeding.
- 12 Correct?
- 13 A They erroneously listed a series of Marc Sobel's
- licenses as being mine in that Hearing Designation Order.
- 15 Q Mr. Kay, please direct your attention to WTB
- 16 Exhibit 44.
- 17 A Okay.
- 18 Q Turn to the last page of the exhibit.
- 19 A Okay.
- Q Is that your signature on the affidavit?
- 21 A Yes, it is.
- 22 Q Do you recognize the exhibit as a pleading filed
- on your behalf at the FCC?
- 24 A Yes. It was prepared by my attorneys.
 - Q Is it correct that WTB Exhibit 44 was filed

- 1 because WTB Exhibit 42 was originally misfiled by your
- 2 attorneys?
- 3 A I know they had to redo it.
- 4 0 Okay.
- 5 A They said something about having filed it with the
- 6 Commission, as compared with the presiding officer. I'm not
- 7 a lawyer. I didn't understand. They were running the whole
- 8 ball here.
- 9 Q Okay. Turn to your attention to Page 22 of
- 10 Exhibit 44.
- 11 A Okay.
- 12 Q Do you see the affidavit of Marc Sobel there?
- 13 A Yes, I do.
- 14 Q My question is, can you compare that to WTB
- Exhibit 43, and tell me, are those the same document?
- 16 A Same pen strokes. Sure look the same.
- 17 Q Okay. Mr. Kay, please turn back to WTB Exhibit
- 18 41.
- 19 A Okay.
- 20 Q Is it correct you first saw this document in
- unexecuted form on January 9 or 10, 1995?
- 22 A That sounds right.
- 23 Q You received it from Brown & Schwaninger?
- \sim 24 A It was Federal Expressed to me by them.
 - 25 Q Brown & Schwaninger were your attorneys?

- 1 A They're also Marc's attorneys.
- 2 O Is it correct you called Mr. Sobel and told him
- 3 your attorney had pleadings to file, and asked him to come
- 4 in and review this affidavit?
- 5 A Well, I received the package. I read it. I
- 6 talked to my attorneys, and I called Mr. Sobel, and said
- 7 that there was an affidavit that my attorneys wanted him to
- 8 read. And if correct, execute it.
- 9 Q And Mr. Sobel, in fact, came in and reviewed the
- 10 affidavit. Correct?
- 11 A Correct.
- 12 Q In fact, Mr. Sobel had a question for you about
- 13 the affidavit. Correct?
- 14 A I believe he may have had two.
- One of the questions was he asked you about the
- 16 meaning of the word "interest" in the affidavit. Correct?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q You told him that, to the best of your knowledge,
- 19 as it had been explained to you, it referred to ownership as
- in a partnership or ownership of stock, as having a direct
- 21 financial stake in something. Being an owner or a
- 22 stockholder or direct party to something. Correct?
- 23 A Correct.
- Q Mr. Kay, isn't it true that you have a direct
 - 25 financial stake in the management agreement stations?

How do you mean? I mean, I'd suffer a financial Α 1 loss if they went away. If Marc Sobel sold them, I'd have 2 3 to move some of my customers. JUDGE FRYSIAK: On an ongoing basis, do you have a financial stake in those stations? 5 THE WITNESS: Not in the licenses. 6 7 BY MR. SCHAUBLE: But you have a stake in the stations, don't you? Q 8 9 Α Well, I have some hardware up there. If they wouldn't be doing that, they'd be doing something else. 10 11 0 The revenues from these stations go into your bank 12 account. Correct? 13 Why I wouldn't get the -- I'd lose the revenues that I'm entitled to collect pursuant to my agreement with 14 Mr. Sobel. 15 Is it also correct that you can buy these stations 16 Q at any time for \$500 each? 17 Pursuant to the agreement, that's correct. 18 that's an option, and it's subject to Commission approval. 19 20 MR. SCHAUBLE: No further questions, Your Honor. 21 JUDGE FRYSIAK: All right. 22 MR. KELLER: I have very few questions. CROSS EXAMINATION 23 _ 24 BY MR. KELLER:

25

Q

Mr. Kay, do you have any large repeater customers?

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- 1 I mean, ones who you bill a substantially larger amount of
- 2 money each month?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q And you would stand to lose a lot of money if one
- of those companies went out of business and no longer
- 6 required your services. Correct?
- 7 A I'd certainly notice the pinch.
- 8 Q But do you consider that that gives you a
- 9 financial interest in those companies?
- 10 A I certainly want them to do well, but it doesn't
- 11 give me an interest in them.
- 12 Q You just testified that you believe that the sale
- 13 price for the station for Mr. Sobel that you arranged for
- the sale to Mr. Matson, was between \$70,000 and \$90,000. Of
- which, Mr. Sobel got \$20,500. That leaves somewhere in the
- neighborhood of \$50,000 to \$70,000 that came to you.
- 17 Was there any consideration for your receiving
- 18 that money? Did you have expenses involved here?
- 19 A We had to give new radios to some customers and
- 20 move other customers radios to another frequency, as well as
- 21 expenses that we had I incurred both legally, gave the
- 22 channel as good as it was for having cleared other customers
- off the channel. We'd actually cleared the channel down to
- 24 one other remaining customer which Matson got a hold of.
 - 25 Q So you discussed this arrangement with Mr. Sobel

- before the deal was done?
- 2 A That's the first person I went to.
- 3 Q And he was satisfied with this arrangement, that
- 4 it was equitable?
- 5 A He set the dollar figure. He said he wanted 20
- 6 grand. I said, fine with me.
- 7 Q Mr. Kay, you also testified earlier that your
- 8 employees largely do not know what particular station they
- 9 are dealing with, in the sense that it is a management
- 10 agreement station or a station licensed to you or a station
- licensed to one of your customers as a community repeater,
- 12 et cetera.
- Is it a fair characterization for me to say that
- 14 as far as those salespeople are concerned, they are really
- not in the business of running repeaters, rather in the
- business of selling repeater service. Is that correct?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Objection. Objection on relevance,
- 18 Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE FRYSIAK: Well, it is simply following on
- 20 what you said. I think it is connected. I will overrule
- 21 your objection.
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Thank you, Your Honor.
- BY MR. KELLER:
- 24 Q So, they are selling repeater service, as opposed
 - 25 to running repeaters. Is that correct?

- 1 A They're selling air time. They're selling
- 2 repeater service.
- 3 Q They are selling air time. That is really the
- 4 business that they are involved in.
- 5 A That's basically what I do, is I sell air time.
- 6 Q And the air time that you sell is capacity that
- you draw from a number of different sources. Correct?
- 8 A Correct.
- 9 Q Some of those sources might be stations licensed
- 10 to you, but some of it might be stations license to someone
- 11 else with whom you go out and make some sort of a
- 12 contractual arrangement in order to get capacity. Correct?
- 13 A To the customer, air time is air time. They don't
- 14 know and don't care where I get it from, as long as they get
- 15 it.
- 16 Q You are somewhat familiar with the communications
- 17 industry in general. Correct?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q So you are aware that when you make a long
- 20 distance call across the country using MCI, that maybe all
- 21 parts of that call are not carried by MCI. Correct?
- 22 A I wouldn't know and wouldn't care, as long as the
- 23 call goes through.
- Q But you still consider MCI, in this example, as to
 - 25 being your customer. That is who you are going to pay your

- 1 money to?
- 2 A Correct.
- 3 Q What you are paying them for is providing the
- 4 service, not particular facilities?
- 5 A Correct. All the customer is really concerned
- 6 with is that the radio works.
- 7 MR. KELLER: I have no further questions, Your
- 8 Honor.
- 9 JUDGE FRYSIAK: All right. Thank you. Mr.
- 10 Schauble, do you have any redirect?
- 11 MR. SCHAUBLE: I believe --
- MR. FENSKE: You mean for Mr. Kellett? We have no
- 13 cross. Can he step down for a second?
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: All right.
- MR. KELLER: No further questions.
- 16 MR. FENSKE: No further questions, Your Honor.
- 17 JUDGE FRYSIAK: Any redirect?
- 18 MR. SCHAUBLE: No redirect, Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE FRYSIAK: Okay. Sorry, Mr. Kay, to keep you
- 20 waiting.
- 21 THE WITNESS: No problem.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: You are excused.
- 23 (Witness excused.)
- 24 MR. SCHAUBLE: I am glad that we could get the
 - witness off and over with today, Your Honor.

JUDGE FRYSIAK: We all join in your happiness.

- What is your next move?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Your Honor, I believe that our
- 4 presentation is complete.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: You do not have any more
- 6 witnesses?
- 7 MR. SCHAUBLE: No, Your Honor.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: Who are all these people?
- 9 MR. KELLER: That is only half of what was here
- 10 yesterday.
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Observers, Your Honor.
- 12 JUDGE FRYSIAK: You mean we have come to an end
- here? As long as there is nothing further, I will close the
- 14 record.
- Let us address our attention to proposed findings
- 16 and replies. Today is the end of July. How about September
- 17 15 for briefs?
- 18 MR. SCHAUBLE: That would be fine, Your Honor.
- 19 JUDGE FRYSIAK: Let's see. We have about ten days
- 20 for transcripts? I am asking the reporter. Usually, about
- 21 a month and a half. Who has a calendar here?
- MR. FENSKE: It is a bigger sized one. We
- 23 proffered the 13th, which is four weeks. September 15 is
- _ 24 also a Monday.
 - JUDGE FRYSIAK: September 15 is a Monday?

- 1 MR. FENSKE: Yes.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: That would be for the proposed
- 3 findings?
- 4 MR. FENSKE: Yes.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: For replies, two weeks after that
- 6 is how much?
- 7 MR. FENSKE: We see replies, perhaps, as more
- 8 complex than the findings. Can we have at least three weeks
- 9 on that, Your Honor?
- 10 JUDGE FRYSIAK: What are the dates?
- 11 MR. FENSKE: I would proffer the 6th of October?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Is that Columbus Day? That might
- 13 be a federal holiday.
- 14 JUDGE FRYSIAK: That would be too early for
- 15 Columbus Day.
- MR. KELLER: According to my notes, Columbus Day
- is not until the following week. So the 6th of October is
- 18 fine.
- 19 JUDGE FRYSIAK: That is a Monday?
- MR. KELLER: Yes.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: Is that agreeable with the Bureau?
- MR. SCHAUBLE: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUDGE FRYSIAK: All right. If there is nothing
- 24 else, thank you very much for your cooperation. I really
 - 25 did not expect you people to finish.

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1
                  MR. SCHAUBLE: Thank you, Your Honor.
  2
                  JUDGE FRYSIAK: Mr. Keller, do you want your
  3
       photographs?
                  MR. KELLER: No. Those are your copies.
  4
                                                              I had
       copies made for everybody.
  5
  6
                  JUDGE FRYSIAK: Thank you very much.
                  (Whereupon, at 3:02 p.m., the hearing was
  7
  8
        concluded.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

FCC DOCKET NO.: WT97-56

CASE TITLE:

Marc Sobel

HEARING DATE:

July 29, 1997

LOCATION:

Washington, D. C.

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately on the tapes and notes reported by me at the hearing in the above case before the Federal Communications Commission

Official Reporter

Heritage Reporting Corporation

1220 "L" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

Catherine B. Crump

TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence were fully and accurately transcribed from the tapes and notes provided by the above named reporter in the above case before the Federal Communications Commission.

Date:

Nancy & Midhigh Official Transcriber

Heritage Reporting Corporation

Nancy L. McHugh

PROOFREADER'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the transcript of the proceedings and evidence in the above referenced case that was held before the Federal Communications Commission was proofread on the date specified below.

Date: 8/1/97

Heritage Reporting Corporation

Don R. Jennings